

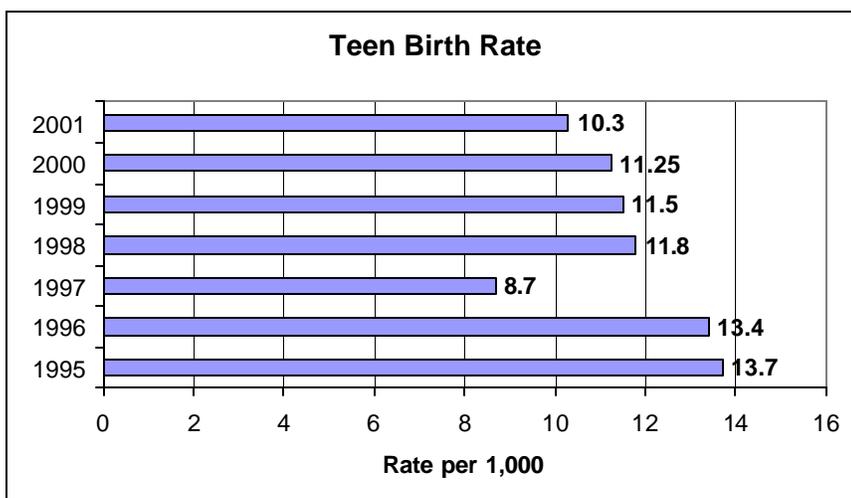
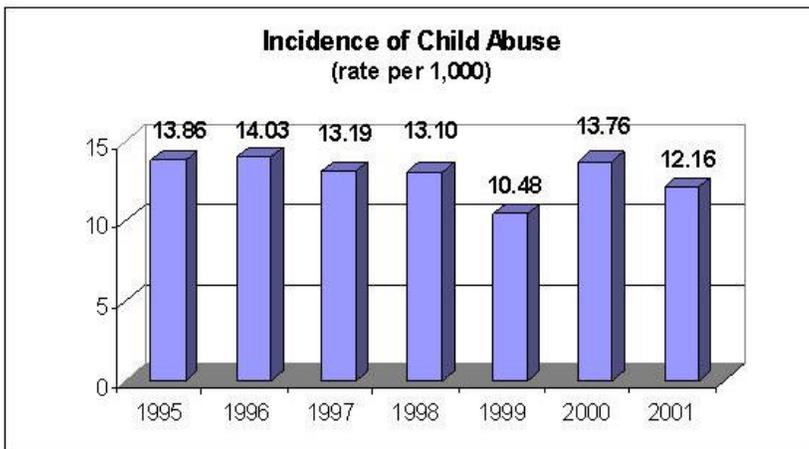
State Results and Indicators

Secure and Nurturing Families

Community Empowerment strives to help families effectively fulfill their roles as primary providers, nurturers, and teachers of their children. Community Empowerment provides families with advocacy, information, education, and support. Examples of services include family resource centers, training in parenting skills, parent education opportunities, family literacy, and home visiting programs.

Families in Iowa have a great need for support:

- Iowa ranks 2nd in the nation in the percentage of families with preschool children in which all parents in the household are employed.
- The majority of mothers with children under the age of five are in the workforce.



Communities are encouraged to commit 60% of school-ready funds to provide parent support and education programs and services. In a recent recommendation and report, by the Center for Disease Control, a task force on community preventive services sought to review of scientific evidence regarding the effectiveness of home visitation programs on child maltreatment and other forms of family violence. Evidence, from 22 studies, led to a task force recommendation that home visitation programs be employed for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. (*First Reports on Evaluating the Effectiveness of Strategies for Preventing Violence: Early Childhood Home Visitation*, October 2003, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5214a.htm)

